In Paragraph 13 of the Official Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 33 and 34 would be allowed if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112. The language objected to by the Examiner, namely, "said free end", has been deleted from claim 33. <u>Appendix A attached</u> <u>hereto shows the exact language deleted from claim 33.</u>

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 33 and 34 are now in condition for allowance.

It is believed that the foregoing constitutes a full and complete response to the Official Action. Therefore, entry of this amendment and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas A. Pandiscio

Reg. No. 17,293 Pandiscio & Pandiscio

470 Totten Pond Road

Waltham, MA 02451-1914

Tel. (781) 290-0060

Attorneys for Applicant

okta-14.amb

Mailing Certificate

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, sufficient postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:the date indicated below:

10 APMIL 200

(date of deposit)

NICHOLAS A. PANDISCIO

(name of attorney)

(signature)

B